WHAT ARE CLAIMED ARE:

1.   An automatic performance apparatus, comprising:

a storage device that stores performance data and accompaniment data having a plurality of sections;

5   a detector that detects a specific note in the performance data;

a reproduction device that simultaneously reproduces the performance data and the accompaniment pattern data; and

a controller that controls the reproduction device to change

10   the section at a point of the detected specific note.

2.   An automatic performance apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

the detector detects a first note of the performance data, and

15   the controller controls the reproduction device to reproduce a first section of the accompaniment pattern data from a beginning of the performance data to a top or end of a measure having the detected first note and to reproduce a second section of the accompaniment pattern data after the first section.

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3.   An automatic performance apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

the detector further detects a blank section of the performance data, and

25   the controller further controls the reproduction device to reproduce a third section for the detected blank section.

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4.   An automatic performance apparatus according to claim 3, wherein

the controller further controls the reproduction device to

5   reproduce a fourth section for the detected blank section when the

detected blank section is shorter than a specific time length.

5.   An automatic performance apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

10   the detector further detects a last note of the performance

data, and

the controller further controls the reproduction device to

reproduce a fifth section after the detected last note.

15 6.   An automatic performance program which a computer

executes, comprising the instructions for:

reading performance data and accompaniment data having a

plurality of sections from a storage device;

detecting a specific note in the performance data;

20   simultaneously reproducing the performance data and the

accompaniment pattern data; and

controlling the reproduction device to change the section at a

point of the detected specific note.

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